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SAYS HUNGARIAN WAR INDUSTRY MOBILIZING

200,000 WORKERS FIT OUT ARMS PLANTS -- New York, Riportok es Hitek Magyarorszagrol, 13 Jan 51

A corps of 200,000 workers is engaged in fitting out the arms factories under construction in Hungary. An arms factory is being built at Jaszbereny, in the vicinity of the Kunsag farm settlement, where tanks and armored vehicles will be produced under direction of Soviet engineers. Production is scheduled to begin 1 March. Plans call for production of 50 tanks and armored vehicles of various types per month. It is noteworthy that three chief engineers of the Budapest arms factory and 16 first-class skilled workers have been transferred to Jaszbereny for cadre training.

Light weapons are produced in the Diosgyor and Salgotarjan plants. More important powder plants are located in the Bukk Mountains to protect them from bombing attacks.

The steel factory at Salgotarjan produces a series of artillery weapons. To cut down sabotage, the factory has been closed off from the outer world and workers' families have been housed in designated dwellings.

The number of workers at the Diosgyor factory has increased by 1,000. During the past 3 months, armored trains and 7.7 and 12-centimeter cannon have been in production at Diosgyor. Assembly work is carried on at the Hungarian Iron, Steel, and Machine Factory (MAVAG) in Budapest.

Industrial centers of eastern Hungary are engaged exclusively in war production. Production of industrial items essential to villages has been decreased.

Beginning 1 January, the Hofherr Schrantz plant will manufacture dual-purpose tractors which can also be used for drawing artillery pieces.

Production of tractors [entire country?] has been decreased 30 percent and the production of other agricultural machines has also been cut.

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WOMEN IN ARMED UNITS -- New York, Riportok es Hitek Magyarorszagrol, 6 Jan 51

The number of women serving in the army has increased since November. Originally, women were employed by the Ministry of Defense and military administration only as telephone operators and clerks. During the fall, however, large-scale basic training of select Communist women was begun. These women now occupy confidential positions, perform important work, and wear uniforms constantly. Recently, women have appeared as radio and telephone operators of individual army units. Some of the superfluous female taxicab drivers of Budapest are now driving vehicles in military transportation units. Along with communications instruction, women receive standard infantry and weapons training.

The central military communications school is located in the Budaorsi ut barracks in Budapest, where 260-270 women have been in training since 15 November. There is open discussion at these barracks of plans for the induction and training of women to organize a large number of women's armed units. The Communist Party has sent women party members to all cities and larger communities for the careful selection of trainees. It is well known that there are some women in partisan and labor units, also.

REPORTS ON WAR CONSTRUCTION, PURGES, SOVIET TROOPS IN HUNGARY -- Munich, Hungaria, 29 Dec 50

Hungarian military forces at present consist of eight infantry divisions, one armored division, one division of shock troops, three border-patrol brigades, one mountain patrol brigade, and one motorized division. Equipment, arms and training are all of Soviet design and planning. The remainder of German war materiel and weapons has been discarded and, since it is particularly suited to partisan fighting, shipped to Korea, China, Indochina, and Malaya.

The armored division is equipped with T-34 tanks. On 4 April, 86 T-34s appeared in a dress parade in Budapest.

Somewhat conflicting reports of Soviet forces in Hungary are being circulated. An informed source who recently left Hungary reports that there are four Soviet divisions in Hungary: two west of the Danube and two in the Great Plains.

Mihaly Farkas, Minister of Defense, lives under heavy guard in a lavish villa at 3 Csopaki ut, Budapest. State Security Authority (AVO) guards are stationed in front of the house and in the yard. Farkas, who arrived in Hungary with the Soviet troops at Debrecen in 1944, holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Soviet Army. Thus it is easy to imagine the nature of conferences between this "minister" and a Soviet full general.

Farkas' chief associate is Maj Gen Geza Revesz, whose Soviet rank is that of a colonel. Revesz commanded a brigade in the Spanish Civil War and was Hungary's "envoy" to Poland during 1946-47. Through Revesz, Farkas cleansed the army of Palffy sympathizers.

Three other men should be mentioned besides Farkas and Revesz. Ferenc Janosi, chief of the so-called education department of the Ministry of Defense, previously had been a Protestant minister. He entered the army in 1945, wormed his way into Janos Voros' confidence, and was consequently made ministerial adviser and later, colonel. He veered increasingly toward the left and to date has avoided liquidation, though his patron, Voros, together with the latter's stepson, were imprisoned in 1949.

One of Revesz's chief confidants was a physician, Dr Sandor Szeremlei. While in Debrecen, Szeremlei was still occupied in driving Jews out of the university with riot sticks, but after 1945 he turned Communist, became a political officer, and, in 1950, through his acquaintance with Revai was appointed political control officer of the main body of the army. Now he is political supervisor of the officer-training institute.

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In January 1945, Col Laszlo Padusiczky still resisted the suggestions of some of the officers of his division that action against the Russians cease. Shortly thereafter, however, he immersed himself in the Communist Party. He left his wife and two children and, as a staff officer of the "People's Army," married a second time. However, when his present wife's father was arrested by the AVO he did not even inquire about the reason for the arrest.

In dealing with the Hungarian General Staff Soviet interests are represented by a committee of 50 Soviet staff officers who are all stationed at the new central building of the Ministry of Defense on Falk Miska ut.

After the liquidation of Palfy, the sphere of activity of the command of the army was entrusted to a Council of Generals consisting of the Minister of Defense, the Army Chief of Staff, and inspectors and chiefs of staff of the various arms.

All members of the Corps of Generals who served in the Red Army have been liquidated. This accounts for the recent disappearance of Janos Voros, Gabor Farago, Istvan Kozma, Solyom, etc.

Besides military preparations already reported, concrete pillboxes are being built 8-10 kilometers from the Yugoslav border. The Csap railroad line leading toward the USSR is being extended. Because of tactical considerations, the main line and a reserve line are being built in such a manner that Budapest may be circumvented. This is the reason for extending the Vac-Aszod line, and for building the Stalin Bridge (formerly Arpad Bridge) between Obuda and Ujpest.

Much construction activity is going on to the left of Budakeszi ut on the site of the old military cemetery. Deep-digging machines are in operation, and long, low pavilions with many underground rooms are being built.

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